MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT

Office of Public Information contact: Marcia McBrien | (517) 373-0129 follow the Office of Public Information on Twitter @CourtInfo

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MICHIGAN STATE COURTS' NEW WEB SITE DEBUTS TODAY New site organizes content by audience, features better access and search tools

LANSING, MI, October 4, 2012 – A new and better-organized "One Court of Justice" web site – offering everything from forms needed for court proceedings to the latest Michigan Supreme Court and Michigan Court of Appeals decisions – debuted today, Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Jr., announced.

"I used to joke that our old web site was where information went to die," said Young. "We have a wealth of content, but it hasn't always been easy to find. This new site is much easier to navigate, making the content more accessible to everyone – the public as well as the legal community."

Content on the new web site is organized by audience, Young explained. Using tabs on the home page, users tell the site who they are or what they are interested in – "general public," "legal community," or "judges and court staff," for example. The web site in turn displays content of interest to that audience.

Content from the former "One Court of Justice" site is still available on the new site. A search box is in the top right-hand corner of every page.

The site, http://www.courts.mi.gov/, offers a wide variety of information, including court forms, court rules, statistics, and information on judicial branch agencies, such as the Friend of the Court. A directory of trial courts on the site includes such information as whether the court offers online access to court records or allows online payment of traffic tickets. The site also offers links to self-help resources for those who represent themselves in court without an attorney.

Young emphasized that the "One Court of Justice" web site "is an ongoing project. We intend to make it even more accessible and serviceable, based on the feedback we receive from users," the chief justice said. Users can submit comments and questions via the "Site Feedback" link in the footer under "Assistance" or by e-mailing sitefeedback@courts.mi.gov.

Judicial Information Systems, the technology division of the State Court Administrative Office, led the web site redesign with input from every division of the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, and SCAO. Technical support was provided by C\D\H, a Michigan-based technology consulting firm.